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July 3, 1986

Aerial Survey Results - Allegheny National Forest - 1986

Forest Supervisor,
Allegheny National Forest

An aerial sketchmap survey for forest insect and disease damage was conducted by Bob Acciavatti over the Allegheny National Forest on June 20, 1986. This memo provides you with the results of that survey.

The defoliation caused by the current outbreak of the gypsy moth was the most obvious and serious type of damage observed. Jim Higgins and Stan Kobielski accompanied Bob on the flight and had a chance to observe the defoliation on the Bradford RD first hand. A forest-wide map showing the location of this damage for the entire Allegheny NF was given to Joel Hockinson, TM-SO, on July 1. By copy of this memo, each District Ranger (except Ridgway which had no defoliation) will be sent a map of gypsy moth defoliation on their RD.

The following tabulations present the acreage of defoliation observed during the survey by Ranger District, ownership and damage class. We expect to have high-altitude aerial photography from a NASA flight in July so that detailed defoliation observations can be made for our stand damage assessment work. We will adjust the tabular value based on this detailed photo interpretation work to arrive at final figures later this summer.

Gypsy Moth Defoliation Acreage
Allegheny National Forest - 1986

Ranger District and Ownership	Moderate (30-60%)	Severe (>60%) & Scattered	Severe (>60%) & Widespread	Totals
--Bradford	30,281.3	5,682.6	10,781.4	46,745.3
NFS	29,658.6	5,526.9	10,275.4	45,460.9
State & Private	622.7	155.7	506.0	1,284.4
--Marienville	2,023.9	9,185.7	2,374.2	13,583.8
NFS	1,556.8	5,527.0	1,401.2	8,485.0
State & Private	467.1	3,658.7	973.0	5,098.8
--Sheffield	2,958.1	7,239.5	3,658.6	13,856.2
NFS	2,452.1	3,074.9	2,880.2	8,407.2
State & Private	506.0	4,164.6	778.4	5,449.0
--Entire				
Allegheny	35,263.3	22,107.8	16,814.2	74,185.3
NFS	33,667.5	14,128.8	14,556.8	62,353.1
State & Private	1,595.8	7,979.0	2,257.4	11,832.2

FPM, DFO will conduct a biological evaluation of the gypsy moth outbreak in September. Using densities of new egg masses and trends in this life stage over the last few generations, we should be able to predict where populations are expected to cause defoliation in 1987. Then, we can plan suppression as warranted.

Locally, severe frost damage to young black cherry and beech in clear cuts were obvious on the Ridgway RD. This damage was noted by Bob McBride and Terry Stefan who accompanied Bob Acciavatti on the flight over their Ranger District. These trees should recover their vigor within this growing season.

Robert E. Acciavatti

/s/ ALLAN T. BULLARD
Field Representative
Forest Pest Management

Enclosure

cc: AO, FPM, w/o map
FPM, DFO, ATTN: Weiss, w/o map
Bradford District Ranger, w/map
Marienville District Ranger, w/map
Sheffield District Ranger, w/map
Ridgway District Ranger, w/o map